

Message Text

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11

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 SP-03 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FEA-02 EB-11 PRS-01

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R 022307Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT DAMASCUS

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 066327

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SY

SUBJ: FRENCH AMBASSADOR ON JOBERT'S ALLEGED STATEMENTS

REF: DAMASCUS 315

1. WASHINGTON POST CARRIED LOCAL STORY MARCH 22 THAT
"THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS THAT THE FRENCH HAVE BEEN TELLING
ARAB GOVERNMENTS THAT PARTIAL SOLUTIONS, ON WHICH U.S.
DIPLOMACY IS CURRENTLY BASED, WOULD BE DANGEROUS AND THAT
ISSUES OF THE PALESTINIANS AND JERUSALEM SHOULD BE DEALT
WITH NOW RATHER THAN LEFT FOR FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS" AND
"OTHER REPORTS SAY THAT THE FRENCH HAD BEEN TELLING THE
ARABS THAT IF THEY LIFT THE EMBARGO THE U.S. WILL REVERT TO
A PRO-ISRAELI POLICY."

2. EVANS AND NOVAK COLUMN IN WASHINGTON POST ON MARCH 23
ENTITLED "MR. NIXON'S CHALLENGE TO EUROPE" STATED THAT
"IN LATE JANUARY WHEN FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT WAS ENDING
HIS MOST RECENT MIDEAST DIPLOMATIC JUNKET HE LEFT THIS
PRIVATE ADVICE WITH THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT IN DAMASCUS:
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DON'T TRUST THE NIXON-KISSINGER RHETORIC ON A POLITICAL

SOLUTION OF THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT BECAUSE THEY ARE CONNING THE ARABS; DON'T LIFT THE OIL BOYCOTT BECAUSE IT IS THE ONLY CUTTING EDGE THE ARABS HAVE TO PRESSURE THE AMERICANS TO FORCE ISRAEL OUT OF ITS VAST ARAB CONQUESTS OF 1967."

3. DEPARTMENT PRESS OFFICE STATED MARCH 23, IN RESPONSE TO

QUESTIONS, THAT WE HAD NO INFORMATION TO SUBSTANTIATE ATTRIBUTION OF EVANS AND NOVAK REPORT TO JOBERT AND WE HAD NO COMMENT ON WHETHER SOME OTHER FRENCH OFFICIAL MAY HAVE MADE SUCH APPROACH TO SYRIANS.

4. FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN LETTER IN WASHINGTON POST ON MARCH 26 DENIED JOBERT HAD EVER ADVISED SYRIAN OR ANY OTHER ARAB GOVERNMENT AGAINST LIFTING THE OIL EMBARGO. HE DID NOT EXTEND DENIAL TO OTHER FRENCH OFFICIALS, EXCEPT TO SAY THAT FRANCE NEVER FAVORED THE OIL EMBARGO.

5. GUIDANCE REMAINS AS INDICATED PARAGRAPH 3 ABOVE. RUSH

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PFOR, SY, (JOBERT, MICHEL)
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